investment made in such new plant and machinery which meet the eligibility criterion of the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme and making new investment quota entitlements non-transferable.

Handloom Weavers of Maharashtra

2896. SHRI SATISH CHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a)whether it is a fact that the handloom weavers of Maharashtra have announced to come on the road for their demands; and

(b)if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The handloom weavers in Maharashtra have not given any such notice for their demands to come on the road. However, general problems of handloom weavers in the Country, including Maharashtra State are being taken care of by extending financial assistance under schemes and programmes through the State Goverrunents.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up new Spinning Mills in Gujarat

2897. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of TEXTE.ES be pleased to state:

(a)whether Goverrmient have set up some new spirming mills during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 in the country, particularly in Gujarat;

(b)if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of handloom weavers co-operative spirming mills and growers co-operative spirming mills; and

(d) the details of financial assistance for their expansion and modernisation?

THE MINflSTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) No sir, the role of the government for the development of the textile industry is that of a facilitator and it does not set up the textile mills on its own.